

EXHIBIT 4:
SUPPORT LETTERS

Assembly
California Legislature



BETTY KARNETTE
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FIFTY-FOURTH DISTRICT

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AND INTERNET MEDIA
INSURANCE
RULES
TRANSPORTATION

May 22, 2006

Mr. Sam Schuchat
Executive Officer
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Schuchat:

As the Assemblymember representing the community of San Pedro and the Port of Los Angeles, I enthusiastically express my support for the application of the Los Angeles Maritime Institute (LAMI) requesting funding for restoration of the TopSail Youth Program's original tall ship, *Swift of Ipswich*.

In addition to being a proven venue for the TopSail Youth Program, the 67 year old *Swift of Ipswich* has also become a community icon recognizable as the "pirate ship." Thousands of young people have seen the ocean and harbor for the first time from the deck of this tall ship. They are given the opportunity to personally experience and better appreciate the diversity and beauty of our local marine environment and learn about international commerce and maritime history.

Participants are also challenged both physically and mentally as they serve as crew on a tall ship. Through these challenges they develop self-confidence, cooperation, a strong work ethic and leadership skills. By restoring *Swift*, LAMI will be able to reinstate a recognizable and proven asset which will serve the community in these and other ways for years to come.

I strongly support the Los Angeles Maritime Institute's TopSail Youth Program and I respectfully urge your consideration of their application for funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betty Karnette".

BETTY KARNETTE
Assemblymember, 54th District

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California State Senate

SENATOR

ALAN LOWENTHAL

TWENTY-SEVENTH SENATE DISTRICT



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RELATIONS

NATURAL RESOURCES
AND WATER

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

May 23, 2006

California Coastal Conservancy
Attention: Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Schuchat and Members of the Coastal Conservancy:

I strongly support the Los Angeles Maritime Institute (LAMI) and its TopSail Youth Program. For the past 14 years, the program's founder, Captain Jim Gladson, and his caring, cooperative staff and hundreds of dedicated volunteers have done such wonderful work nurturing, mentoring and educating our next generation on a daily basis.

In addition to providing thousands of young people with the opportunity to personally experience and better appreciate the diversity and beauty of our local marine environment, the TopSail Youth Program has also provided many of our next generation with the skills and self-belief necessary to choose avenues that will serve them well into their future. The Topsail Program has provided life lessons for thousands of young people (most of whom have come from homes below the poverty line) at a time when a nurturing nudge in the right direction can make the difference in a child becoming a responsible, productive adult, or the child yielding to the weakness of negative peer pressure. In turn, our communities, our society and our environment, are better served in the process.

I have been an advocate for the environment and programs that have a positive impact on children...not only from a traditional educational standpoint, but also in the lessons children can learn for themselves that will help them well into their adult lives. I believe that LAMI's goals and beliefs in these areas are similar to mine and that they should continue to receive all public and private support for their future endeavors.

Sincerely,

ALAN S. LOWENTHAL
Senator, 27th District





Los Angeles Unified School District

Beyond The Bell Branch

Expanded Learning and Enrichment Programs

333 S. Beaudry Avenue, Floor 29

Los Angeles, California 90017

Telephone: (213) 241-7900 Fax: (213) 241-7562

Roy Romer
Superintendent of Schools

Alvaro Cortés
Assistant Superintendent

September 11, 2006

Chairman Douglas Bosco
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, California 94612

Dear Chairman Douglas Bosco:

It gives me great pleasure to write this letter of support for the Los Angeles Maritime Institute (LAMI) for the retrofitting of another topsail schooner. Beyond the Bell Branch works with the more than 850,000 Los Angeles Unified School District students to provide academic intervention, and safe activities and places for students before/after school and on Saturdays. We have been involved with LAMI for the past three years in the Topsail Program. This program has made a difference in the lives of at-risk students in the inner city with its emphasis on team work, connection to the content areas of science, geography, oceanography, and sailing.

The grant from the California Coastal Conservancy will greatly enhance the Topsail program with the additional ship that will accommodate smaller classes of 10-15 students. This will allow LAMI to accommodate more classes and those with smaller numbers. The need is great for opportunities for students to participate in experiential educational adventures that are hands-on and take place in the real world. These opportunities provide students with invaluable experiences and connections to adults that are not available in the traditional classrooms.

If I can be of any further assistance to you in making this very important funding decision, please do not hesitate to contact me at (213) 241-7900.

Sincerely,

Joan Mezori

Director, Extended Learning Programs

Mission Statement: In collaboration with community partners, Beyond the Bell ensures that all children and youth in the LAUSD have access to high quality, safe, and supervised education, enrichment, and recreation programs that engage and inspire learning and achievement beyond the regular school day.



September 12, 2006

Captain Jim Gladson
Executive Director
Los Angeles Marine Institute
Berth 84, Foot of Sixth Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Dear Jim:

In our recent discussion I was discouraged to learn that, due to lack of funding, it may not prove possible to restore the tall ship *Swift of Ipswich* to operational condition. Were this to be the end of the *Swift's* illustrious career, which would indeed be a tragedy. Entirely apart from the wonderful service that the ship has provided your organization as an educational platform for thousands of school children each year, she has a rich history and an important place in the California maritime cultural renaissance that has seen a vast development in the boating industry, appreciation for maritime historic preservation, and tall ship based educational programs throughout the state. Her pedigree of antecedents, design, and construction, not to mention her many noteworthy voyages and associations with famous people and events have won her a place as one of America's most important yachts and as a California maritime icon. I would applaud any efforts that can be exerted not to let her slip away.

Best wishes,

Raymond Ashley, PhD
Executive Director, Maritime Museum of San Diego

Cc: Chairman Douglas Bosco
State Coastal Conservancy

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SEP 13 2006

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.



GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION & INFORMATION STUDIES

MOORE HALL

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LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90095-1521

August 31, 2006

Douglas Bosco
Chairman, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland Ca, 94612

Attn. Carol Arnold

Dear Sirs:

It is an honor for me to write this letter of recommendation regarding the sail training program provided by the Los Angeles Maritime Institute for the young people of the greater Los Angeles area.

Having used the term "sail training" I would like to emphasize that this program is far more than training young people to go to sea. This is about working with adolescents in an environment completely different to anything they have experienced up to now. This takes them from the world of "Me" to the world of "Us". Life on one of the two ships now operating is all about self discipline, planning for a particular goal, whether it be a trip or an in port training evolution, and the team work necessary to attain the goal. The ocean is there with them and its reality lends a real life atmosphere to their experiences.

Specifically, there is a very necessary need to have three ships operational to provide the services currently requested by schools and youth groups. The Swift of Ipswich is the third vessel that would provide the needed additional support for the program. It is, however, in need of repairs to make it operational, and we would be most appreciative of any financial support that could be forthcoming from the Coastal Conservancy to meet that need.

My own background consists of time spent at sea. Nevertheless, I have forty one years of experience as a math teacher, counselor, middle school and high school principal and I was the Superintendent of the Los Angeles Unified School District from 1992 to 1997. My professional world has been about inner-city youngsters and I know the arena. This program is absolutely tops. I have been working since retirement as an instructor at UCLA's Graduate School of Education and can still see first hand the need for important programs such as this. It has my unqualified support.


Sidney A. Thompson
Senior Fellow, Graduate School of Education
University of California, Los Angeles



Chairman Douglas Bosco
California Coastal Conservancy
1320 Broadway, Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94612
Attn: Carol Arnold

Angeles Girl Scout Council
Street Address:
2525 Ocean Park Blvd.
Santa Monica, CA 90405
T (310) 450-3720

GirlScouts@angeles.org
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 4030
Santa Monica, CA 90411
F (310) 450-3920

September 5, 2006

To the California Coastal Conservancy:

For Girl Scouts to sail again on the topsail schooner SWIFT OF IPSWICH would be grand!

Your support of Los Angeles Maritime Institute's restoration of the SWIFT would be an investment in many ways: in terms of leadership and character development, environmental education, maritime historic preservation, coastal awareness and ocean literacy, among other key benefits.

SWIFT has a special place with Girl Scouts, since over many years from the 1960's through the 1980's, thousands of teenage Girl Scouts learned from sailing adventures on SWIFT, sailing out of Santa Barbara and Ventura.

Generations of Girl Scouts have proven that SWIFT is of a scale and size that girls can handle together, especially Junior Girl Scout troops of fourth-sixth graders, as well as girls in middle-school and high school in groups of only a dozen-fifteen girls with their volunteer leaders.

Since 2003, Angeles Girl Scout Council has been partnering with LAMI to get large enough groups of teenage girls to sail LAMI's beautiful new brigantines, with sailings scheduled almost every month. A few girls have worked up to being qualified deckhands and are now sailing as volunteer crew with middle school youth. Aboard SWIFT, younger girls would be offered a special progression of opportunities, including dockside shipboard activities, harbor tours, daysails, and a new dockside overnight program being developed (by a team led by a Girl Scout working toward her GS Gold Award!)

We look forward to drawing from over 100,000 Girl Scouts from all over California, many of whom have never seen the ocean! A restored SWIFT will be a perfect setting for carrying on tradition or fulfilling our newly stated mission "Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place."

For the California Coastal Commission to support the restoration of the SWIFT OF IPSWICH would, indeed, 'make the world a better place!'

Fair Winds,

Joan W. Pincutter

Joan W. Pincutter
Director of Programs
Angeles Girl Scout Council

Nancy H. Richardson

Nancy H. Richardson
Girl Scout Mariner volunteer leader (47 years)
Marine Education Program Specialist, GSUSA staff (retired)